



St Mary's Cockerton CE Primary School

Equality Information and Objectives

2022 – 2026

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Approved by: Executive Principal

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1. Aims

Our school aims to meet its obligations under the public sector equality duty by having due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- [The Equality Act 2010](#), which introduced the public sector equality duty and protects people from discrimination
- [The Equality Act 2010 \(Specific Duties\) Regulations 2011](#), which require schools to publish information to demonstrate how they are complying with the public sector equality duty and to publish equality objectives

This document is also based on Department for Education (DfE) guidance: [The Equality Act 2010 and schools](#).

This document also complies with The Melrose Learning Trust funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the school, including to staff, pupils and parents, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every four years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the Executive Principal
- Ensure they're familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document
- Attend appropriate equality and diversity training

The Executive Principal will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to Directors
- Identify any staff training needs, and deliver training as necessary

All school staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 8.

4. Eliminating discrimination

The school is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions.

Where relevant, our policies include reference to the importance of avoiding discrimination and other prohibited conduct.

Staff, Directors and members of the Local Academy Councils are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act, for example during meetings.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training annually.

5. Advancing equality of opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, the school aims to advance equality of opportunity by:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people which are connected to a particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils with disabilities, or gay pupils who are being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic (e.g. enabling Muslim pupils to pray at prescribed times)
- Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of school societies)

In fulfilling this aspect of the duty, the school will:

- Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing
- Analyse the above data to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and publish this information
- Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)
- Publish further data about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect our own pupils

6. Fostering good relations

The school aims to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it by:

- Promoting tolerance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, citizenship and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, but also activities in other curriculum areas. For example, as part of teaching and learning in English/reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures
- Holding assemblies dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such assemblies and we will also invite external speakers to contribute
- Working with our local community. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at assemblies, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community
- Encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different groups of pupils within the school. All pupils are encouraged to participate in the school's activities, such as sports clubs. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures
- We have developed links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach

7. Equality considerations in decision-making

The school ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

The school always considers the impact of significant decisions on particular groups. For example, when a school trip or activity is being planned, the school considers whether the trip:

- Cuts across any religious holidays
- Is accessible to pupils with disabilities
- Has equivalent facilities for boys and girls

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1: *Class teachers to identify parents who may need translations of key information.*

Why we have chosen this objective: to ensure all parents receive the information they need to support their child

To achieve this objective we plan to: Identify languages required and source translators

Objective 2: *Eliminate discrimination by developing the provision of PSHE and RSE in order to embed a clear understanding of the protected characteristics at an age appropriate level.*

Why we have chosen this objective: To ensure that our pupils are well-prepared for an ever-changing and diverse society and that they consistently display our core Christian values in their interactions with other people.

To achieve this objective we plan to: Embed the equality values throughout the curriculum and our wider provision

Objective 4: *Train all members of staff and Directors and members of the Local Academy Councils involved in recruitment and selection on equal opportunities and non-discrimination. Training evaluation data will show that 100% of those attending have a good understanding of the legal requirements.*

Why we have chosen this objective: To ensure that any changes in staffing and governance does not reduce the number of trained personnel to ensure equal opportunities and non-discrimination is understood and promoted during all recruitment

To achieve this objective we plan to: identify those likely to be involved and deliver training through HR partners

9. Monitoring arrangements

The Executive Principal will update the equality information we publish, [described in sections 4-7 above], at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the Executive Principal at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved and circulated to relevant stakeholders by the Executive Principal

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- SEND Policy
- SEND Information Report